

**21ST Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC)
Program Updates
March 2012**

INCLUDED IN THIS UPDATE:

- + **OPI News:** 21ST CCLC 2012-2012 Renewal and Competitive Grant Applications
- + **Program News:** MAPS Ravalli Republic monthly article on after-school programs in the county
- + **Conference News:** Looking for Presenters and Vendors
- + **Funding Opportunities:**
 - Youth Service Day Mini-grants
 - State Farm Insurance Companies offering Service-Learning project funds
- + **Professional Development:** Project Archaeology Summer Course
- + **Activity Idea:** Create seedling pots out of newspaper

The 21st CCLC 2012-2013 grant applications process has begun.

Mary Ellen Earnhardt has sent out the official email to Montana school districts to invite qualifying entities to apply for the grant. E-grants is working to complete the revised application by April 1, 2012 (tentative). New applicants, along with upcoming 6th year and 11th year applicants will apply competitively for the grant. Sixth year sub-grantees will apply for 60% of their original funding, while eleventh year sub-grantees will apply for an amount yet to be determined. Upcoming second year through fifth year and seventh year through 10th year sub-grantees will submit a renewal application that is not competitive.

The following two questions will be in the grant application for current sub-grantees applying on a competitive basis:

1. What proven impacts (academic, enrichment, parenting, and community involvement) has your program shown over the five or eleven years of existence? (You can use the data from creating change to help you with this question or MontCAS, Dibbles, MAPPS scores)
2. What will you do differently with these additional funds to enhance your program?

Ravalli County Republic Newspaper debuts monthly article on after-school programs in the County

Laura Henderson, MAPS 21st CCLC program director, wrote the first article in the Ravalli County Republic to inform the county's residents about the great opportunities available through the many after-school programs in the area. Click on this link, http://ravallirepublic.com/lifestyles/blife/article_917fc2ce-69a2-11e1-8012-0019bb2963f4.html to read the article. What a great way to engage the community on what your programs are accomplishing!

Present Your Best Practices and Activities at the Conference

This year's conference, titled "Uniting Montana's Treasures" will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, in Missoula on August 7-9, 2012. Please consider being a presenter and bringing your best practices to the conference. See Presenter form on website, fill it out with your breakout session idea, and send in to Amanda Domino.

Mini-Grants Available for Global Youth Service Day Projects

Apply by March 23, 2012- Helena, MT – The Governor's Office of Community Service is seeking youth-led community projects for Global Youth Service Day on April 20-22, 2012. In partnership with YSA (Youth Service America), the Governor's Office of Community Service is offering \$150 mini-grants for up to 30 projects that engage youth in serving their community.

Organizations, schools, afterschool programs, service clubs, and youth can apply. Youth are especially encouraged to apply for projects they have planned in their community. Applications are due to the Governor's Office of Community Service by Friday, March 23 at Noon.

The application form, additional guidelines, and an FAQ can be found on the website: serve.mt.gov or contact Julia Gustafson, Communications Manager, Governor's Office of Community Service (406) 444-9077.

Investigating a Plains Tipi: This educator's course is in Bozeman, June 11-14, 2012. .“ Join us for an exciting trip back in time to investigate a plains tipi archaeological site. Practice the basics of scientific inquiry (observation, inference, evidence, and classification) using authentic archaeological data. This course and the curriculum guide, Project Archaeology: Investigating a Plains Tipi will give you everything you need to engage kids in scientific methods and historic inquiry and show them how archaeology can help us solve problems today.” For more information, click on this link, **Project Archaeology**

StateFarm Insurance Companies is offering funds for student-led service-learning projects that address environmental responsibility, community safety and natural disaster preparedness, financial literacy, access to higher education, or social health and wellness. Deadline: 5/4/2012. For eligibility and to apply, click www.statefarmyab.com/apply/national-grants

Creating Seedling Pots out of Newspaper Click on the link below and view the YouTube video for an easy step-by-step lesson on making seedling pots that kids can create just from newspaper. Grow vegetable or flower seeds in the pots, and later transfer the plants to a flower or vegetable garden.
http://www.nwf.org/News-and-Magazines/National-Wildlife/Gardening/Archives/2010/Plant-A-Flower-Day.aspx?s_email_id=20120310_BOT_ENG_Newsletter_March_Edition|SLPBot . For more information, connect to the National Wildlife Federation's website at: <http://www.nwf.org/>